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HR

3/23/72

Mr. Tom Kelley
U.S.Secret Service
1800 G St., NW
Washington, D.C.

Dear Tom,

Some time ago, in a speech at Stanford University, Anthony Russo made reference to a Rand study of the assassination of President Kennedy. Although I have not yet seen it, I understand Ramparts contains a similar reference. I believe Mr. Rowley testified to a study made by Rand for the Secret Service. Insofar as such a study, as it relates to measures for the protection of a president, in my opinion, may be properly withheld, I have no interest in it. However, if this study goes farthur and deals with fact or what is considered probable fact about the assassination of President Kennedy, I am interested in it. I would like to be able to examine any pages that deal with the assassination of President Kennedy in any manner other than in terms of protection of Presidents in general. I am not asking you to make copies for me because until I see any such pages I have no way of knowing whether they are of any interest to me. They may not be. I have only Russo's opinion that the entire thing should be made public. I do not know upon what he bases this nor do I know if I agree. However, I would like to see what is not addressed only to measures needed for protection or what is addressed to the assassination of President Kennedy. If I am not in Washington earlier, I will be there on April 5.

I have written you several times about the 17 stills of the WDSU footage delivered to the Secret Service by Johann Rush. They are not in the Archives. I was in New Orleans just before Thanksgiving. I have had a copy of the WDSU file copy of their Oswald film for some years through the kindness of WDSU. I now know from two separate sources, one of which is WDSU, some of what was edited out of the movie film not only after the assassination but after it was viewed after the assassination. I would like to be able to see these stills when I am in Washington. And if you would like to know what I have learned, I will be happy to tell you.

On this trip I also was told that by court order Godfrey Kirkpatrick was, for a short while, permitted out of the institution. His mother told me he had to be returned.

You will, I think, remember a strange letter sent to Senator Gravel's administrative assistant and using my name. Off the cuff, I had a suspect. Thereafter, because of the hidden erudition, I spent much time on that inherent threat. I do not believe it within the capability of that suspect. There was considerable subtlety in it. For example, the fake return address translated into an appropriate biblical reference. After it was mailed I received several phone calls from a man then in the area who said he was moving to Florida. From his own account of his education and experience, he could have been capable of the subtlety and the erudition. He is also a linguist, and if your people spent much time on that letter, they found what could be taken as the use of other than English.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg